

Description: Gun violence. Police brutality. Protests. Arrests. Death of Police. The headlines this year have highlighted racial division in America. How is a Christian supposed to make sense of it? What is our responsibility as the body of Christ to demonstrate racial reconciliation? In the midst of tragedy in the news, how is the Good News of the Gospel relevant? This PowerTrax gives a Biblical response to racism, understanding “black Lives matter,” by responding through a Biblical worldview .

Key Passages: Philippians 2:1-11; Matthew 5:3-10; Psalm 139:23-34; John 13:34-35; John 1:12

Extra Passages: Genesis 12:1-3; Matthew 28:19-20; Acts 10; Galatians 3:28; Colossians 3:11

Prompt: America truly is a melting pot. However, the local church does not always reflect the diversity of the public school and neighborhood. Take a minute to compare the diversity of your classrooms to your youth group. If diversity is lacking, ask students how it might benefit your group. If diversity is evident, ask students how it strengthens your group. Then segue into Dayne’s talk.

Play: Video of Dayne Carraway, “Broken America” www.buildmomentum.org/resources.html

Process: Select from the following questions to help students **remember**, **rekindle** and **reengage**.

- ⏪ Dayne confessed his dislike for the idea that we should “be color-blind” as it relates to race. **Why does it bother him? What does it mean to “be colorful”?**
- ⏪ Social media, the news, and violence have added to the confusion around “Black Lives Matter.” Dayne provided some perspective on the movement. **What clarity did he offer about Black Lives Matter? Why is the comment, “All Lives Matter” unhelpful?**
- ⏪ Dayne said, “Racism or prejudice isn’t limited to treating someone badly. It’s increasing or lowering the quality of how you treat a person based upon the qualities about them.” **How might you be guilty of changing the way you relate to those different from you?**
- ⏪ Reread Philippians 2:1-11. **What were the five principles Dayne drew from this text concerning racial healing? How will you live them out?**
- ⏪ **FACT:** The early church wrestled with racism between Jews and Gentiles for decades. Jesus, Peter, and Paul, however, reached across racial barriers. **Read Galatians 3:28. What does this say about identity and race? How is this different than being ‘color-blind’?**
- ⏪ “If the church lived Christ’s model of humility, it would change the world,” Dayne suggested. **What are some practical examples of humility as it relates to interracial relationships?**

Pray: Break students into groups of 2-3. Have each one reread 2 Chronicles 7:14. Encourage them to confess racism and prejudice. Prompt them to petition God for personal and national revival.